

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 05741 021355Z

45

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PRS-01 IO-03 PM-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CPR-01 SY-02 DRC-01

/051 W

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P R 021240Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3350

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 5741

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, US

SUBJECT: NEW GOT APPOINTMENTS TO WASHINGTON AND

UN NEW YORK

REF: TUNIS 5724 (NOTAL)

1. DURING OCT 2 COURTESY CALL, HASSEN FODHA, CHEF DU CABINET FOR FOREIGN MINISTER MASMOUDI, INFORMED DCM THAT FONMIN SECRETARY GENERAL MAHMOUD MESTIRI WILL NOT RPT NOT AFTER ALL BE NOMINATED AS AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AS FODHA HAD EARLIER INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR (SEE REFTEL). FODHA STATED THAT GOT HAD AT LAST MINUTE CHANGED IT'S MIND AND THAT AGREEMENT REQUEST IS BEING WITHDRAWN. INSTEAD, MESTIRI IS BEING ASSIGNED AS PERM REP TO UN. IN HIS PLACE, AGREEMENT IS BEING REQUESTED FOR ALI HEDDA, CURRENTLY DIRECTOR OF CABINET FOR PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA.

2. HEDDA HAS HAD LONG AND REPORTEDLY CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH PRIMIN NOUIRA. ALTHOUGH HE HAS SERVED IN WASHINGTON, HEDDA'S ENGLISH IS ONLY FAIR. EMBASSY HAS ENJOYED GOOD RELATIONS WITH HEDDA. DETAILED BIO INFO WAS SUBMITTED TO DEPT AS ENCLOSURE TO TUNIS A-049 DATED APRIL 11, 1973. REFTEL, CONTAINING BIO INFO ON MESTIRI, BEING REPEATED TO USUN.

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 05741 021355Z

3. COMMENT: LAST MINUTE CHANGES LIKE THIS NOT RPT NOT UNUSUAL
IN BOURGUIBA'S METHOD OF OPERATION. BOTH MEN ARE CAPABLE AND
EXPERIENCED DIPLOMATS AND HAVE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH
BOTH PRIMIN NOUIRA AND FONMIN MASMOUDI. IN OUR VIEW, HOWEVER,
MESTIRI WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER CHOICE FOR WASHINGTON. HEDDA IS
LESS OUTGOING, LESS SOPHISTICATED AND , AS MENTIONED ABOVE, MUCH
LESS FLUENT IN ENGLISH.
SEELYE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, AGREEMENT, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TUNIS05741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SEELYE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731055/aaaaboh.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Event:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, TS, US, UN, (MESTIRI, MAHMOUD), (HEDDA, ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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